

Appln. No. 10/714,021  
Reply to Office Action of May 29, 2007  
Amendment dated: October 29, 2007

### REMARKS

Applicants have submitted this Request for Continued Examination so that the Examiner may consider the alternate claims as modified herein. More specifically, Applicants have modified independent claim 1 to specify that at least one of the first and second magnetic layers includes alkali metal sulfonate incorporated into the resin at concentration of .001 mmol per gram to 1.0 mmol per gram. Support for this modification to the independent claim can be found throughout the specification and is specifically found on page 9 of the original application.

Additionally, Applicants have added new claims 9 and 10-14. Claim 9 specifies the most preferred range of the alkali metal sulfonate that is incorporated into the resin. Claims 10-14 add additional alternate limitations requiring that the quantity of a polar group of a tertiary amine be present in a range of .01 mmol/g to .5 mmol/g. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art references of record do not teach or suggest the specified magnetic material of the present invention having the specified alkali metal sulfonate for the previously specified structure whether alone and/or in combination with the specified polar group for the tertiary amine at the designated quantity.

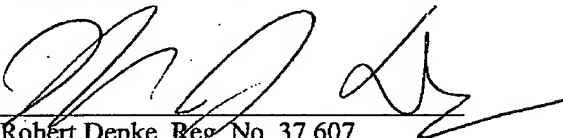
Appln. No. 10/714,021  
Reply to Office Action of May 29, 2007  
Amendment dated: October 29, 2007

Applicants respectfully submit that the references of record considered alone  
or in combination teach or suggest the present invention as now claimed.  
Accordingly, in light of the foregoing Applicants respectfully submit that all claims  
now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

10/29/07

  
Robert Depke, Reg. No. 37,607  
**ROCKEY, DEPKE & LYONS, LLC**  
Suite 5450, Sears Tower  
Chicago, IL 60606-6306  
Tel: (312) 277-2006  
**Attorneys for Applicant**